

Customer No.: 31561  
Application No.: 10/604,246  
Docket No.: 10038-US-PA

### REMARKS

#### Present Status of the Application

It is noted with a great appreciation that the Examiner indicated allowance of claims 8 and 10-14, but objected to claim 10 because claim 10 depends from claim 9, which has been canceled. In response thereto, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for pointing out the informality and accordingly amended claim 10 to depend from claim 8. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, Applicants have canceled claims 15-19 as suggested by the Examiner in order to expedite an early allowance of this application.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 10-14 patently define over prior art of record and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

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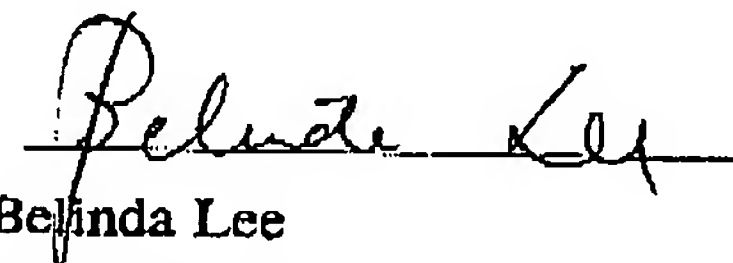
**CONCLUSION**

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 8 and 10-14 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted

Date :

January 7, 2005

  
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